

IN THE CLAIMS

1-78 (Cancelled).

79-97 (Cancelled).

98. (Original) A nucleic acid that encodes a recombinant HBc protein molecule according to claim 1, or a variant, analog or complement thereof.

99. (Original) A nucleic acid that encodes a recombinant HBc protein molecule according to claim 18, or a variant, analog or complement thereof.

100. (Original) A nucleic acid that encodes a recombinant HBc protein molecule according to claim 42, or a variant, analog or complement thereof.

101. (Original) A recombinant nucleic acid molecule that comprises a vector operatively linked to a nucleic acid segment defining a gene that encodes a recombinant HBc protein molecule according to claim 1, or a variant, analog or complement thereof, and a promoter suitable for driving the expression of the gene in a compatible host organism.

102. (Original) A recombinant nucleic acid molecule that comprises a vector operatively linked to a nucleic acid segment defining a gene that encodes a recombinant HBc protein molecule according to claim 18, or a variant, analog or

complement thereof, and a promoter suitable for driving the expression of the gene in a compatible host organism.

103. (Original) A recombinant nucleic acid molecule that comprises a vector operatively linked to a nucleic acid segment defining a gene that encodes a recombinant HBc protein molecule according to claim 42, or a variant, analog or complement thereof, and a promoter suitable for driving the expression of the gene in a compatible host organism.

104. (Original) A host cell transformed with a recombinant nucleic acid molecule according to claim 101.

105. (Original) The transformed host cell according to claim 104 wherein said host cell is selected from the group consisting of CHO, VERO or COS cells, *E. coli*, *S. cerivisiae*, *Pichia pastoris typhi*, *S. typhimurium* and a *S. typhimurium-E. coli* hybrid.

106. (Original) A host cell transformed with a recombinant nucleic acid molecule according to claim 102.

107. (Original) The transformed host cell according to claim 106 wherein said host cell is selected from the group consisting of CHO, VERO or COS cells, *E. coli*, *S. cerivisiae*, *Pichia pastoris typhi*, *S. typhimurium* and a *S. typhimurium-E. coli* hybrid.

108. (Original) A host cell transformed with a recombinant nucleic acid molecule according to claim 102.

109. (Original) The transformed host cell according to claim 108 wherein said host cell is selected from the group consisting of CHO, VERO or COS cells, *E. coli*, *S. cerivisiae*, *Pichia pastoris typhi*, *S. typhimurium* and a *S. typhimurium-E. coli* hybrid.

110-115 (Cancelled).